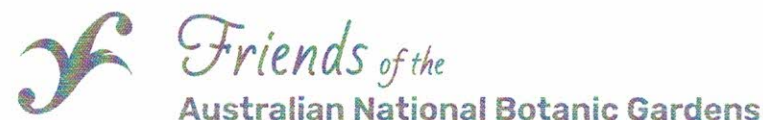


**Minutes of Council meeting – Celia Rosser Room
2 pm 12 December 2024**



1	Approval of Agenda, Attendance, Apologies		Responsibility	Moved (M) Seconded (S)	Outcome
1.1	<p>Opening and welcome</p> <p>Attendance</p> <p>Approval of agenda</p>	<p>Linda Beveridge opened the meeting and welcomed new members Catherine Robertson and Ian Primrose. Catherine, Ian and Chris were elected at the AGM in October. She noted that Chris Mackay had been elected for a two-year term after filling a casual vacancy earlier in the year.</p> <p>Linda Beveridge (President), Alan Henderson (VP), Rod King (Treasurer), Beth Tyerman, Kathy Robertson, Ian Primrose, Kerry Moir (minutes)</p> <p>Ex officio Peter Byron, Helen McHugh</p> <p>As Treasurer Rod King had to leave the meeting early, the Treasurer's report was moved to the start of the agenda.</p>	Linda Beveridge		
1.2	Thank you to Neville Page	<p>On behalf of all Council members, Linda expressed deep appreciation for Neville Page's great leadership during his two terms of office, 2020-2024. His extensive knowledge and experience were a great benefit throughout, especially with implementation of changes of legislation and associated statutory material for environment groups such as our Friends organisation, strategic priorities, review of Friends' policies and procedures, membership and information technology, and for surviving COVID.</p> <p>The Council looks forward to Neville's continued interest in the Friends of ANBG and its Council.</p> <p>A letter of appreciation will be sent to Neville.</p>	Linda Beveridge		
2	Minutes of Previous Meeting				
2.1		<p>Draft Minutes of the meeting 10 October 2024 had been placed on the Google Drive.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: That the minutes of 10 October 2024 be accepted</p>	Linda Beveridge	M: K Moir S: L Beveridge	Carried

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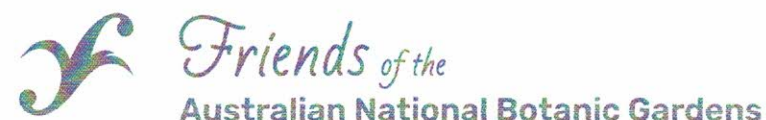
2.2	Matters arising from the Previous minutes		Linda Beveridge		
		Most matters arising from the October minutes were covered elsewhere in the agenda			
3	General Business				
3.1	AGM	<p>Vacant positions The position of Secretary was not filled at the AGM and remains vacant. Kerry Moir advised that she was unable to continue to take the minutes for future meetings. Cathy Roberson offered to consider being Secretary.</p> <p>Public Officer Chris Mackay has agreed to take over the role of Public Officer from Christianna Cobbold.</p> <p>Council members profiles Everyone present introduced themselves and provided some background on their interest and involvement with the ANBG.</p>	Linda Beveridge		
3.2	Appointment of Auditor for 2024-2025	<p>Appointment of Auditor for 2024-2025</p> <p>RESOLUTION: That Council appoints MGI Joyce Dickson as Friends Financial Auditor for the year ended 30 June 2025.</p>	Linda Beveridge	M: L Beveridge S: R King	Carried
3.3	Priorities for 2025	<p>The document outlining the key priorities for 2024-25 (based on the Strategic Plan 2021-2026) had been placed on the Google Drive. It was noted that all of the specific projects mentioned were under way.</p> <p>It was also noted that all the priority items related to expenditure and that there were no priority items relating to income. It was agreed that Chris Mackay would form a working group with Rod King and Alan Henderson to identify potential actions to maintain and increase income. Helen McHugh would also be asked to provide input.</p>	Chris Mackay		

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3.4	MOU update	It was noted that the MOU between the ANBG and the Friends of the ANBG would be due for renewal in 2025.	Linda Beveridge		
3.5	Volunteer Recognition	The Volunteer Recognition ceremony was held on 26 November. As Linda was not able to attend, awards from the Friends to Patrick De Deckker, John Buckley, and Steven Playford were presented by Immediate Past President Neville Page. The guest speaker was Dr Kathryn Eyles, National Coordinator of the Australian Seed Bank Partnership.			
3.6	Extended parking permits	Names of Friends eligible for extended parking permits in 2025 had been provided to the Gardens. New permits can be collected from the Visitor Centre.	Linda Beveridge		
3.7	Support for Volunteer Botanic Training Program 2025	<p>The Friends of ANBG have supported the Volunteer Botanical Training Program (VBTP) at Centre for Australian National Botanic Research for many years, by providing a Botanical Bookshop voucher for \$100 to each trainee that completes the program.</p> <p>The annual program is being conducted again in January – February 2025. Bronwyn Collins manages the program and will also make the presentations of the program available to a small group of Friends of ANBG, after the successful trial of doing this in January 2024.</p> <p>Bronwyn has asked the Friends to support the VBTP again for 2025 by providing bookshop vouchers to the trainees. It is understood that there will be about 12 trainees.</p> <p>RESOLUTION: That Council allocate up to \$1200 so that each Volunteer Botanical Trainee in the Herbarium be given a \$100 book voucher.</p>	Linda Beveridge	M: L Beveridge; S: C Robertson	CARRIED
3.8	Relations with Friends of ERBG	An email had been received from Derek Anderson, newly elected President of the Friends of Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Garden, proposing an arrangement to share news items, Friends events, items of interest and what is happening in the respective Gardens.	Kerry Moir		

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		<p>It was agreed to send the Friends of the ERBG a hard copy of each issue of 'Fronds' and to include them in the eBulletin distribution, and that we would be willing to consider other suggestions for closer co-operation including the possibility of reciprocal visits at some time in the future.</p> <p>It was noted that articles about the ERBG had been published in Fronds in the past.</p> <p>The Friends ERBG newsletter will be distributed to members of Council and placed on the ANBG Friends website as a news item.</p>			
3.9	Weeding Work Party	The joint Friends of ANBG and Friends of Black Mountain Nature Reserve weeding work party is being held on Saturday 4 January.	Linda Beveridge		
3.10	Walk ANBG to National Arboretum	Linda advised that there had previously been some discussions about establishing a walk from the ANBG to the National Arboretum and that these discussions were continuing. Chris Mackay agreed to be involved, too.	Linda Beveridge Chris Mackay		
4	Reports				
4.1	Director ANBG	<p>As Peter had left the meeting before this item, the report was presented by Helen McHugh.</p> <p>It is hoped that the contract for completion of the Conservatory will be signed before Christmas or shortly after.</p> <p>The draft landscaping plan for the area outside the Conservatory is ready</p> <p>The seedbank upgrade is under way.</p>	Peter Byron		
4.2	ANBG Friends Liaison Officer	<p>Snakes Alive will be held from 13 – 19 January in the Banksia Centre and will include two low sensory sessions.</p> <p>The Gardens will be open for two nights during the Enlighten Festival.</p> <p>Staff have been preparing communication and other plans for HPA1 avian influenza which is expected to arrive in the future and may result in dead or injured wildlife being found in the Gardens.</p>	Helen McHugh		

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		All landline phones have been disconnected by DCCEEW and workarounds are being investigated. The bust of Joseph Banks has been replaced, with additional security.			
4.3	President	Linda gave an oral report.	Linda Beveridge		
4.4	Treasurer	The following documents had been placed on the Google Drive: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balance Sheet for 31 October 2024 • Income Statement for 31 October 2024 • Balance Sheet for 30 November 2024 • Income Statement for 30 November 2024 RESOLUTION: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That when the Term Deposit #0395 matures on 29 January 2025, the principal and interest be reinvested for a further 3 months. The interest rate will be available from NAB on that date. 2. That NAB be notified of names and bank signatories for 2025; President Linda Beveridge, Vice-President Alan Henderson, Treasurer Rod King, and Council member, Chris Mackay. 3. That the Treasurer’s Report be accepted 	Rod King	M: R King S: C Mackay	CARRIED
4.5	Project Committee	The Project Committee recommended that Council agree to fund three projects from existing funds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LCD Screen and interpretative signage upgrade in bus shelter (up to \$50,000) • Additional furniture for the administration building foyer and the Visitors Centre (up to \$30,000) • Two additional water bubbler stations (\$26,000). Two additional projects were considered to be worthwhile, but insufficient funds are available at this stage to support these projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bottle tree root protection platform (\$60,000) • Permanent illumination for paperbark treehouse (\$40,000-\$60,000) 	Alan Henderson		

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		<p>Detailed proposals for all projects have been included on the Google Drive.</p> <p>Resolutions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council commit up to \$50,000 for an LCD Screen and interpretative signage upgrade in bus shelter. 2. Council commit up to \$30,000 for a custom made cupboard, lounge on casters and two chairs in the administration building foyer, and a lounge, two chairs and children’s area furniture in the Visitors Centre. 3. Council note that support for the acquisition of a lounge on casters in the administration building foyer is subject to ANBG staff identifying alternative locations to ensure easy access for the scooters and wheelchairs currently located in the cupboard in the foyer. 4. Council commit \$26,000 for two additional water bubbler stations: one for the Rock Garden Friends Shelter and one for the Brittle Gum Lawn. <p>Council noted that the contribution of the Gift Fund and/or Friends will be appropriately acknowledged on the items covered by recommendations 1, 2 and 4 above.</p>		M: A Henderson S. C Mackay	CARRIED
4.6	IT Strategy	No report	Christianna Cobbold		
4.7	Website team	Beth reported that the current website continues to run without any obvious problems. Beth and David More are the current web editing team. There has been no further progress with the new website and Beth and David are continuing to investigate paid resources to manage the update.	Beth Tyerman		
4.8	Volunteer Guides	Most of the Guides from the 2024 intake are now qualified. Special walks that were offered as part of the annual springOUT pride festival in November were very well supported and attracted positive feedback. Consideration will be given to repeating these walks in other years.	Kerry Moir		
5	Friends Groups				

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5.1	Botanic Art Group	No report			
5.2	Communications	Broadcast Email Beth has agreed to take over production of the monthly eBulletin to Friends.	Barbara Podger Neville Page		
5.3	Flowers Fruit and Foliage	No report	Ben Walcott		
5.4	Nature Journaling	No report	Lesley Page		
5.5	Growing Friends	Minutes of the Growing Friends meeting of 2 November were posted to the Google drive	Maurice Hermann		
5.6	Membership	RESOLUTION: That the applicants listed in the 2024-11 Membership Report posted to the Google Drive be accepted as Members	Lesley Harland	M. L Beveridge S. B Tyerman	CARRIED
5.7	Photographic Group	RESOLUTION: That <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council endorse the Friends ANBG Photography Group Elected 2025 Committee 2. Council endorse the Friends Photography Group's revised Policies and Procedures. <p>Purchase of photograph for inclusion in the ANBG art collection – Gift from the Friends On 27 November Alan Henderson and Beth Tyerman representing Friends and Helen McHugh and Peter Byron representing the ANBG, selected 'Pink petals and native wings' by Debbie Howard from the Friends Photographic Group Illuminations Exhibition. This piece continues the theme of pollination. The price was \$190.</p>	Phil Green	M: A Henderson S: B Tyerman	CARRIED

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5.8	Schools Photographic Competition	RESOLUTION: That Council allocate the Photographic Competition for students of schools and colleges up to \$5,000 for 2025.	Linda Beveridge	M: L Beveridge S: A Henderson	CARRIED
5.9	Plant Recognition Group	No report	John Busby		
5.10	Plant Science Group	No report	John Busby		
5.11	Social Events and Activities	Successful after dark walks were held on 15 November. Butterfly walks by Suzi Bond are being held on 19 January, and bird walks on 1 and 2 March 2025.	Kerry Moir		
5.12	Thursday Talks	The Thursday Talks program for 2025 will begin on 6 February.	Linda Beveridge		
6	Other Business				
7	Next Meeting		Linda Beveridge		
	The next meeting of the FANBG Council will be 13 February 2025 commencing 2pm in the Celia Rosser Room				
	Meetings in 2025 Executive meetings first Thursday each month, except January, 2pm Council meetings second Thursday each month, except January, 2pm				

Linda Beveridge.